

MALBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9th March 2022 In the Annexe of Malborough Village Hall

1. Present:

Gail Allen (GA); Tim Chandler (TC) Secretary; Sally Harvey (SH); John Jevans (JJ) Sports Officer; Val Jevans (VJ) Bookings Officer; Tony Lyle (TL); John Mahood (JM) Treasurer; Andy Morgan (AM) Chairman; Jonathan Towne (JT);
Malborough Parish Council represented by John Yeoman (JY);
MADS represented by Jill Clarke (JC);
Janice Ginn;
M.J. Gernt;

2. Apologies:

Kevin Broome (KB) representing KM;
Bob Smale (BS);
Ann Kendall (AK);

3. The Minutes of the last Meeting.

The Minutes of the meeting of 26th May 2021 were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman

Proposer; Jill Clarke; **Seconder:** Jonathan Towne;

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising which would not be covered under specific reports.

5. Reports

Chairman's Report (AM):

In his opening remarks, the Chairman reported that the Association had had a difficult year, and in the early part of the year bookings had been few and far between. However, as conditions improved, we were delighted to welcome back MAD and other regularly users. Thanks to good government financial support, we have been able to carry on, albeit at a small deficit. Free Wi-Fi had been installed for all Hall users.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to all members of the present committee for their hard work and dedication during what had been a difficult year, and he felt confident that the work that had been done during the year will bear fruit in the years ahead.

He extended his thanks and appreciation to Malborough Parish Council for their constant and friendly support and looked forward to working together with the future.

Treasurer's Report (JM):

Report on MVH&PFA accounts for Financial Year (Jan-Dec) 2021

The figures for financial year 2021 continued to be affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. We sustained an overall loss of £6,003, compared to a loss of £22,129 the previous year.

Donations received during the year totaled £18,381, of which lockdown grants from the government via South Hams District Council comprised £17,7499. Other donations included Seamoor Lotto £155, the Co-op £150 and a fundraiser by the Cove of £327.

Our income continued to be reduced, with Hall and Annexe hire down to £5,198 compared to £9,299 in 2020 and £20,581 in 2019. Additionally, Bonfire Night was cancelled, but the £1,295 spent on fireworks will not have to be repeated next year. On the plus side, the Fete returned a handsome £2,587 profit. Income from Playing Field hire was steady at £2,332.

Expenditure on Field Maintenance was £3,268 compared to £5,071 the previous year.

Our major spending was on repairs to windows and doors totaling £15,800. Other significant (non-recurring) expenses were £1,176 on plumbing to sort out an underfloor leak, £1,796 for servicing and repairs to the Hall and Annexe gas heaters, and £235 for Hall ceiling repair. (Our recurring expenses for Cleaning, Advertising, Utilities, Insurance and Licenses came to £7,722). An increase in required tree work was reflected in Wood maintenance costs of £1,122 compared to £818 in 2020.

Our bank balances at the **end of December 2021** (2020 in brackets) were:

Current account **£ 17,343.77** (£17,742.33)

Deposit account **£ 13,364,96** (£13,363.63)

Wood account **£ 1736.35** (£2,858.26)

NS&I **£ 0** (£4651.61)

Petty cash **£0** (£0)

Our total capital and reserves, including capital assets, were **£37,116.70** (£43,120.23).

We are now receiving regular bookings with the recent easing of Covid restrictions. It may be still some time, however, before activity recovers to pre-pandemic levels.

John Mahood
Treasurer

Andy Morgan
Chairman

Signed copy of these accounts with support documents submitted to the Charity Commissioners

Secretary's Report (TC):

Nothing to report.

Sports (JJ):

Despite the best efforts of Covid, the sport facilities were well used during 2021. The two football clubs managed to complete a somewhat depleted and fragmented season but thankfully both clubs survived. This season has been somewhat easier and the pitches remain in excellent condition, thanks to Tony Lyle and his team and also to the Veri draining of the pitches which has been done this year

We continue to experience car parking problems at weekends. We, along with KM, have taken measures to alleviate this problem, by staggering kick-off times where possible, therefore spreading the load. There are pinch points during the morning with people leaving after a game and others arriving for their kick-off. Not much else we can do at the moment, until our plans with extended car park is sorted out. KM have advertised in the Malborough Messenger for car park attendant, in exchange for free coffee and cake, as far as I know that they have had no response as yet.

It should be remembered, of course, that the problems are not caused exclusively by KM or by Salcombe FC. The fact remains that the car parking facilities are not adequate. In fact, only last Saturday, 3 different events were taking place, including the Annexe being used as a base for the collection of parcels going to the Ukraine; it was pretty chaotic.

The refurbishment of the tennis courts was completed during the year, all things considered have been fairly well used. The courts are free to residents of Marlborough and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future. We are now offering free annual memberships for Marlborough residents, meaning that residents will no longer have to enter in entry code but will be able to use the same code until the end of the year when a new one will be issued. This membership facility will also be available for non-residents with an annual fee of £40. The netball court was also used weekly during the summer, which was organised by Hayley Rutherford and Jenni Bunn and hopefully will be up and running again in 2022 once the later evenings arrive and it gets a bit warmer.

Finally, we are in the process of appointing a new contractor to cut and maintain the outside areas, including the football pitches. I would like to thank Tony Lyle for all his work over the past five years and wish him well in his next project.

Booking Officer: (VJ)

Once again, Covid 19 affected bookings, but I would like to thank all our regular and new hirers, for their continued support of the Village Hall and Annexe. MAD kids cancelled their show once again, and KAYS cancelled both their musical and play, but we were able to enjoy the MAD pantomime in January, and KATS are performing "9-5" this month. The Horticultural Society have both events booked for this year, plus the usual lunches. There seem to be more children's parties being booked, 2 wedding receptions this year, one in 2024. The school enjoyed a successful Fete, and both pre-and primary schools have events booked this year. I'm very pleased to say that we were able to offer the Annexe as a collection point for essential goods for Ukraine, and hope to be able to offer more dates. We have been able to accommodate more exercise/keep fit classes than ever, including more Pilates and a Ju-Jitsu class.

Wood Biodiversity Report(TL)

During the year, with help from local environmental groups SMASH, we organised three tree planting sessions. One with Jamie, the parish tree warden and myself planted five large fruit trees by the grandstand on the sports field. The other two were one community, and one community and school, planting of 200 smaller whips. These were planted along the top roadside hedge, by the lower fence on Collaton Road, and filling in the gaps in the Marlborough wood. I'm pleased to report that the success rate was over 85% which is really pleasing to us all. We maintained the whips, flattening the long grass around each plant after a month, and we continue to monitor all the plants and have ordered a few more for the autumn to fill in the gaps. Also, a wildlife area was left unmown in the same area. The wildflower planting also resulted a good take-up of wild flowers which were commented on the main positively. We have learned lessons my first attempt at improving the biodiversity of the playing fields, not these by making clear to the public that the areas were not being neglected but purposefully given over to wildflowers and the resulting increase in bees, hover flies and other small creatures. We will be signing any areas in future with Part Our Weeds, We're Feeding Our Bees boards, which have proved successful elsewhere in other parishes. I'm pleased we are keeping up with the modern trends in Devon, and all over the country, in terms of improving wildlife habitat and increasing woodland cover in our green spaces.

6. Open forum

There was a discussion regarding how the Village Hall might take part in the celebrations of the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. As the afternoon of the Sunday of that weekend is free, John Yeoman, Chairman of the Malborough Parish Council, proposed that in the morning we would have a formal opening of the new playground, and then in the afternoon there would be a picnic with teas in the Hall and grounds. Crunchie will provide a bouncy castle and this was all agreed by the committee.

Tony Lyle advised that Devon Wildlife Trust will provide a tree to coincide with the Jubilee celebration, and this tree, a hornbeam, will be planted during the ecology event at the Hall on 2 April 2022.

6. Nominations for committee 2021

The existing committee was re-elected, and an additional nominee, Janice Ginn, was also elected to the committee. The new committee for 2022/23 comprises, in alphabetical order,

- Tim Chandler
- Janice Ginn
- Sally Harding
- John Jevans
- Val Jevans
- Tony Lyle
- John Mahood
- Andy Morgan
- Bob Smale*
- Jonathan Towne
- Representative from MAD – Jill Clarke
- Representative from Malborough Parish Council – John Yeoman/Ann Kendall
- Representative from Salcombe View Residents' Association – Bob Smale*
- Representative from KM football club – Kevin Broom

7. Any Other Business

None

8. Date of Next Meeting

March 2022, exact date to be advised

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 1958.